

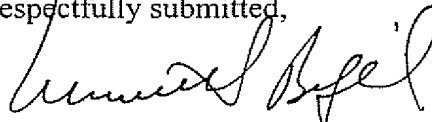
REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the continued thorough examination of the present application that is reflected in the Official Action of January 26, 2006. Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 2-4, 10-11 and 51-52 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and that Claims 12-27 are allowed. Claims 2-4, 10-11 and 51-52 have been rewritten in independent form to place these claims in condition for allowance, without prejudice to the filing of a continuing application for rejected Claims 1 and 5-9 and/or a divisional application for non-elected Claims 28-50.

In particular, Claims 2-4, 10-11 and 51-52 have been placed in condition for allowance by incorporating the recitations of dependent Claim 3 into independent Claim 1 and by canceling Claim 3; by incorporating the recitations of original independent Claim 1 into Claims 2 and 4; by incorporating the recitations of dependent Claim 11 into independent Claim 9 and by canceling Claim 11; and by incorporating the recitations of original independent Claim 9 into dependent Claim 10. Moreover, dependent Claim 51 has been amended to eliminate a typographical error in the claim dependency.

In view of the above, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

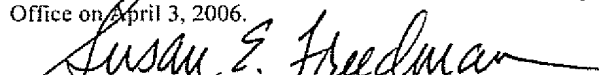


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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 3, 2006.



Susan E. Freedman
Date of Signature: April 3, 2006